

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES DEFINITIONS

I. State of Missouri definition

Section 630.005.1(8)RSMo defines “developmental disability” as a disability which

- 1) is attributable to a mental or physical impairment or combination of mental or physical impairments,
- 2) is manifested before age 22,
- 3) is likely to continue indefinitely,
- 4) results in substantial functional limitations in two or more of the following areas of major life activities: self-care, receptive and expressive language development and use, learning, self-direction, capacity for independent living or economic self-sufficiency, and mobility and
- 5) reflects the need for a combination and sequence of special, interdisciplinary, or generic care, habilitation or other services which may be of lifelong or extended duration and are individually planned and coordinated.

II. Federal definition – Office of Human Development Services, Department of Health and Human Services

Chapter XIII, Part 1385, Sec. 1385.3 states “developmental disability mean a severe, chronic disability of a n individual 5 years of age or older that

- 1) is attributable to a mental or physical impairment or combination of mental and physical impairments,
- 2) is manifested before the individual attains age 22,
- 3) is likely to continue indefinitely,
- 4) results in substantial functional limitations in three or more of following areas of major life activity: self-care, receptive and expressive language, learning, mobility, self-direction, capacity for independent living, and economic self-sufficiency,
- 5) reflects the individual’s need for a combination and sequence of special, interdisciplinary, or generic services, supports, or other assistance that is of lifelong or extended duration and is individually planned and coordinated, except that such term, when applied to infants and young children means individual from birth to age 5, inclusive, who have substantial developmental delay or specific congenital or acquired conditions with a high probability of resulting in developmental disabilities if services are not provided.

III. Federal definition – Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services

Chapter IV, Part 435, Sec. 435.1009 states persons receiving active treatment in intermediate care facilities must be mentally retarded or have a condition that is related to mental retardation. A condition is related to mental retardation if it:

- a. results in impairment of general intellectual functioning or adaptive behavior similar to that of persons with mental retardation and requires treatment/services similar to those required by persons with mental retardation;
- b. occurs before the age of 22; and
- c. is likely to continue indefinitely; and
- d. results in substantial functional limitations in three or more major life activities: self-care, understanding and use of language, learning, mobility, self-direction, and capacity for independent living.

Examples of diagnoses that may qualify as related conditions if ALL the above criteria are met: cerebral palsy, epilepsy, head or spinal cord injury, autism, severe hearing and visual impairment, multiple sclerosis, spina bifida, muscular dystrophy, or orthopedic impairment. *Mental illness is not considered a related condition.*